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INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS, NEUTRAL IN NONE

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TWENTY-SIXTH YEAR, NO. 20.

CHICAGO, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1915.

SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS WHOLE NUMBER 1,321

SWEITZER FIRST

Democratic Voters Are Rallying to His Support in Such Numbers that His Nomination Seems Certain.

Spring Campaign Is Now Fully Under Way With Candidates for Every Place in the Running.

General Gossip from Municipal, County, State, Sanitary and Other Political Fields of Public Interest Up to Date.

What the Leaders in the Wards Are Doing for Their Country, for Themselves and for Their Friends.

There is no question about the fact that Robert M. Sweitzer is gaining every day in his battle for the mayoralty. His candidacy is popular and the aggressive fight he is waging is making itself felt.

Robert M. Sweitzer continued his attacks on Mayor Harrison in his stump speeches. At a meeting in Teutonia hall in the Twenty-ninth ward Mr. Sweitzer repeated his charge that Mayor Harrison's administration in the last year spent \$1,100,000 more than the revenues.

"Do you fire your managers and superintendents when they have had twelve years' experience?" inquired the gentleman who is seeking to convince you that the mayor of Chicago should hold his job for life.

"It was a pathetic plea, and the answer is going to be more pathetic, from that gentleman's point of view. That answer is: Yes, when he brings the institution he manages to the very edge of bankruptcy. Yes, if that manager so mismanaged the most important department of the institution, like the schools of Chicago, that it could not keep running for lack of money.

"What private concern would tolerate a manager whose outgo was \$1,400,000 more than his income last year, and who, on top of that, proposes an outgo of \$2,250,000 more than his income for this year?"

"Suppose it were the business of that private institution to protect its stockholders from robbery and theft and holdups. And suppose that instead of protecting them those stockholders found that the number of holdups increased 50 per cent a year, and that burglaries increased 21½ per cent a year. Would that manager keep his job, just because he had had twelve years' experience?"

Frank S. Ryan, chairman of the Sweitzer organization committee, issued a statement declaring that the railroads are contributing to the mayor's campaign fund. He accused the mayor of making a "sham fight" against the railroads and asserted that employees of the road have been ordered to work for Harrison's nomination.

"Harrison is being given all the support that the railroads can give him," declared Mr. Ryan. "They practically have financed his campaign. They have ordered their employees, under the penalty of discharge to report at Harrison meetings to swell the attendance.

"They have sent their paid lobbyists and 'handy men' to Harrison headquarters to obey the orders of the Harrison managers. William H. Quirk, who is mentioned as presiding at a Harrison meeting, is an employee of the Illinois Central Railroad. One of his duties is to prevent the prosecution of the railroad for violation of the smoke laws.

"When Harrison picked out reasons why he should be re-elected the first one he selected was that he had aided three railroads grab city streets on which to build a passenger station. That is not the way he expressed it, but that is what the Union station plan he talks so much about did.

"When the railroads wanted favors from the city they selected as their attorney one of Mr. Harrison's political

lieutenants, the former law partner of Mr. Harrison's corporation counsel.

"Harrison made a sham fight against what the railroads pretended to want and then gave them what they really wanted."

Mr. Sweitzer assailed the mayor for urging more bond issues for public improvements, when other improvements for which bonds have long been authorized have not been completed.

Robert M. Sweitzer speaking of the mayor's financial policies said:

"I am informed by the public press that 'traction fund charges arouse the wrath' of the gentleman who is trying to assert his hereditary authority to rule over us for his lifetime. Perhaps they have. But his aroused wrath hasn't restored \$11,000,000 and more to the raised traction fund. I know I haven't, and I don't believe you have, read when or where that money has been put back.

"Two dollars borrowed in 1911 and repaid by borrowing \$6 from it in 1912; the \$6 paid by borrowing \$8 in 1913, the \$8 'put back' by borrowing \$10 the next year. Let me give you the exact figures again; \$3,770,000 was borrowed in 1911; it was repaid by borrowing \$7,890,000 in 1912; that loan to the city was repaid by the city borrowing \$9,850,000 in 1913, to make good which debt the city owed the traction fund over \$11,250,000 at the beginning of this year."

A statement issued from the Sweitzer headquarters characterized Mayor Harrison as "the candidate without an issue."

"Two weeks only remain between tomorrow and the date of the democratic primaries," says the statement, "and yet Mayor Harrison remains the candidate without an issue. He is still floundering around seeking in vain to find one which will catch the public fancy, but his situation is more desperate as the day of the primaries draws closer. One obstacle stands in the way of the mayor, and that is his knowledge that his failure to keep former campaign pledges makes it difficult to make ones which will be believed in. The people are inclined to take whatever the mayor says with a few grains of salt."

Farther down it is recited that in 1897 Mr. Harrison had "personal liberty" as an issue and in 1899 settlement of the traction question and in 1901 "the same old story as in 1899."

"In 1903 they voted, not for Harrison but for municipal ownership," reads the statement. "Four years ago 70 cent gas was the issue which made the voters forget the candidate."

William Hale Thompson in an address said: "Chicago needs a thorough cleansing of its municipal management by the Mayor so that for every two dollars expended the city will receive two dollars in actual service and not one dollar in service and one dollar for the building of political machines.

The commissioner of public works, appointed by the Mayor, should possess business qualifications. His duty should be to protect and economically manage the department, and he should not be the main cog in the Mayor's political machine.

"Chicago needs a definite method or system for collecting and disposing of garbage, without involving the city

in scandals growing out of corrupt contracts or favoritism to political bosses or henchmen. I will, if elected Mayor, inaugurate a system which will economically and effectually handle all waste matter which cannot or ought not be added to the city sewage."

The Alma Mater Sweitzer for Mayor club has been organized with fourteen colleges and law schools represented. Matthew Hartigan, Alexander W. Jamieson, William J. Sheridan, Leo

objected to by David J. Harnly. The petition of James Sullivan, Democrat, Thirty-second ward, also was objected to by John P. Smith. Insufficient number of bona fide signatures was the complaint.

Safety First. Safety from what?

Almost at the moment when John J. Sloan, manager of the Harrison campaign, was giving out the statement that the Sweitzer Italian American club had exploded, 150 members of the club were in session at the Hotel Sherman. Francis Borrelli, the president, says, "He asserts that 70 per cent of the Italian voters are with Sweitzer. The club has branch organizations in the Ninth, Fourteenth, Seventeenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-second, and Twenty-ninth wards, where the Italian population is the heaviest."

Peter Bartzan will be the next City Treasurer.

Indorsement of William Hale Thompson for mayor was voted by the executive committee of the Illinois Jewish Republican Club.

Safety First. Who said it wasn't?

The Twenty-third Ward William Hale Thompson Club has been organized, with a membership of 500. Louisa Rowe Osborne is president.

Representative of all clubs affiliated with the Polish Republican league of Cook county have combined in an indorsement of William Hale Thompson, Republican candidate for mayor.

Fifty-five concerns on the board of trade are represented in an organization which is said to have 673 members, formed to work for Robert M. Sweitzer. James P. Molloy is president; Edward G. Heeman, secretary, and John J. Leonard, treasurer.

Safety First is good. Safety Second would be bad.

Another long list of converts from the Harrison to the Sweitzer faith was announced by the Sweitzer managers. Among the list is noted the name of Thomas T. Hoyle, brother of State's Attorney Maclay Hoyle and

HIT LIFE GUARD

Big Fellows Overpaid and Little Fellows Underpaid City Hall Complaint, Echoed by Men Looking for Work.

General Political Gossip About the Mayoralty and the Other Places to be Filled Next Spring.

Latest Items of Interest from All the Camps About Candidates and Their Prospects in the Spring Election.

Mayoralty Fight Is Getting Hotter as the Time for Settling the Battle Draws Closer to Hand.

The hundreds of thousands of men out of work in Chicago and the hundreds of thousands who barely exist on small wages, must view with unalloyed admiration the gallant effort of the overpaid City Hall Veterans, to hold on to their jobs for life.

There are some veterans on the rolls who have not been separated from them for over thirty-five years. Administrations to them are like the

the City Hall payrolls are top heavy. Just look at them and remember that all of these big salaries are exempt from the operation of the income tax.

Office holders are not taxed on their incomes. They are a privileged class. There are 25,585 persons on the city payrolls.

Here are some of the frightfully big salaries, considering their labor performed and the prevailing hard times:

Mayor, \$18,000.
Commissioner of Public Works, \$10,000.
Commissioner of Health, \$10,000.
Corporation Counsel, \$10,000.
Harbor and Subway Commissioner, \$10,000.
Comptroller, \$10,000.
There are 157 persons on the city hall payroll who draw salaries of \$3,000 and over.
Not including aldermen and the police and fire departments.
Many of the city employees are underpaid. Too many officials are overpaid.

The raising of high salaries and the cutting of low salaries is not confined to the city of Chicago. Uncle Sam has been trying his hand at it.

Postmaster General Burleson and the administration were denounced in Congress by Representative Madden of Chicago for reducing the pay of Chicago postal employees to obtain money for pork barrel public buildings appropriations.

Senator Lewis of Illinois went to the postoffice department to protest against the demotion of 350 letter carriers. The senator served notice on the department he would carry the fight in their behalf to the floor of the senate if they are not reinstated at their former grades immediately.

During the consideration of the sundry civil appropriation bill Mr. Madden called the attention of the house to the fact that appropriations were included therein for beginning work on thirty-six public buildings throughout the country, the cost of which will run from \$50,000 to \$1,000,000 each.

"I protest not only against the continuation of such appropriations," he declared, "but I particularly protest against the reduction of the salaries of the men who do the work in the postoffice department in order that you may continue on in your mad rush to empty the treasury."

Ernst Hummel will be the next City Clerk.

The creating of an office holding aristocracy of life job holders goes bravely on. Four bills affecting more than 1,000 employees of Cook County, and 250 to 300 employed in the Municipal court of Chicago, will be presented to the legislature by the Civil Service Reform Association of Chicago, as soon as the house is organized.

Selection of legislative employees by the merit method is another change to be advocated by the association. Under the provisions of the bills, civil-service commissioners would be selected by the merit system, emptied positions would be reduced and blanket clauses eliminated. Building and loan and bank examiners and statehouse clerks and watchmen are

included in the Illinois employees to be affected.

A charge that promises of construction work on the subway are being made to line up votes for Harrison was issued from the Sweitzer camp. "Some time ago," said the Sweitzer statement, "the Harrison managers called attention to the manner in which the Harrison managers were attempting to deceive the unfortunate men who were unable to find jobs. This capitalization of misery for Harrison's selfish purposes is still being continued.

"Examinations for laborers are being called by the civil-service commission, although there are no vacancies in the labor service to be filled. These examinations bring about 1,500 men a day to the city hall. When the men pass the examination, a nominal one, they are approached by Harrison lieutenants and offered jobs on the subway. They are led to believe work is practically under way."

The board of governors of the Chicago Bar Association has ordered a meeting of its 2,100 members to consider the petition signed by twenty-five members which argues that by remaining on the municipal bench while a candidate for mayor Judge Harry Olson is violating the code of ethics of the American Bar Association.

Among the candidates who have filed petitions for the various offices we note the following:

Mayor.
Democratic—Robert M. Sweitzer, Frank J. Wilson, Carter H. Harrison, Thomas O'Dwyer, John J. Grogan, Russell P. Butler, Peter J. O'Reilly, James Traynor.
Republican—Harry Olson, Jacob Hey, and William Hale Thompson.
Progressive—Harry Olson and Charles M. Thomson.

City Clerk.
Democratic—James J. Sullivan, William H. Stuart, and Arthur M. Chamberlin. John H. Goldbach, 3836 Flournoy street.
Republican-Progressive—John Simon.

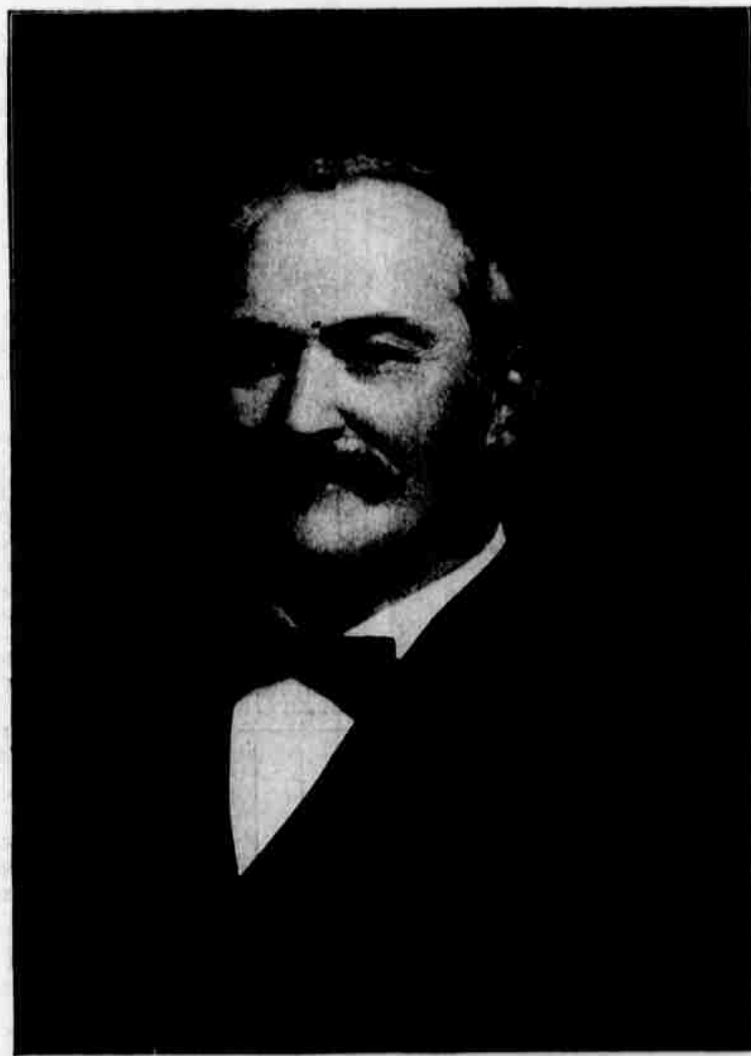
City Treasurer.
Democratic—George E. Gorman, Peter Bartzan, James Bowler, and John J. Harrington.
Republican-Progressive—Charles H. Serpel.
Republican—Louis F. Wilk, 4531 North Troy street.

Municipal Court Judge.
Democratic—Cyril R. Jandus, John C. Murphy, John A. Ulrich, Charles J. Michael, and A. A. Worsley.

ALDERMEN.
First Ward.

Republican—William Walter Scott, 305 East Twenty-fourth street; Winfield S. Troupe, 1309 South Michigan avenue.
Democratic—Michael Kenna, 204 South Michigan avenue.
Progressive—Carl H. Wehle, 2139 S. Wabash avenue.

Second Ward.
Republican—Oscar De Priest, 3815 Vernon avenue; Louis B. Anderson, 2821 South Wabash avenue; F. E. J. Lloyd, 3557 Grand boulevard; H. B.



THOMAS A. SMYTH.
Popular and Honest President of the Sanitary District of Chicago.

O'Reilly, G. I. Rossiter and George W. Ziska were named as a nominating committee.

Three candidates for aldermanic nominations had their petitions attacked before the board of election commissioners. Robert M. Buck objected to the petition of Samuel Beckwith, Republican, in the Thirty-third ward. Beckwith also filed as a Progressive and his Progressive petition was

Robert J. Roulston of the Board of Education.

Twenty-five Chicago salesmen wired Robert M. Sweitzer from Houston, Texas, that they would be home to vote for him primary day, business or no business.

Safety First. Safety Last. Safety all the time.

war news—there is no change in the situation at the front.

Some of them had a narrow escape last summer, when they were in Europe on a junket, at the expense of the taxpayers, and the war broke out so suddenly.

If the Kaiser caught them there he would have placed them in the culinary department of his own Life Guards and kept them in Berlin for the war.
But seriously, in these hard times,